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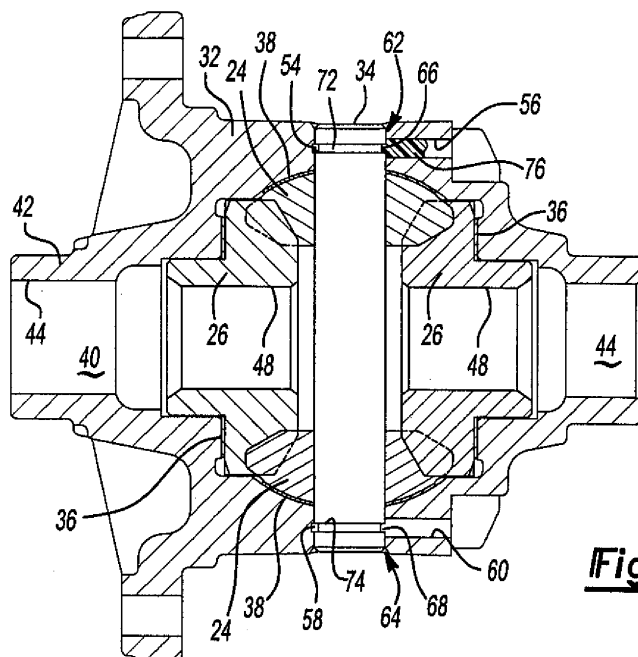
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(54) **Cross pin retention system for differentials**

(57) An arrangement for securely retaining a cross pin (34) within a differential assembly includes a cross pin (34) having a groove (66) positioned proximate a recess (54) formed in a differential housing (32). The recess (54) and the groove (66) define a retention passageway (72) at least partially filled with molten resin (76). Solidi-

fied resin material (76) positioned within the retention passageway (72) retains the cross pin (34) in the differential housing (32). Another embodiment cross pin retention system includes a pair of locking clips coupled to the cross pin. Each of the pinion gears (24) of the differential assembly is retained between one of the locking clips and the differential housing.



***Fig-5***



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 04 10 0609

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	US 5 967 932 A (YEE ET AL) 19 October 1999 (1999-10-19) * figures 3,4 * * column 4, line 33 - line 48 *	1,2,7,11	INV. F16H48/08
A	* abstract *	3-6,10, 12,13	
A	----- US 5 824 348 A (FUJII ET AL) 20 October 1998 (1998-10-20) * figures 4,6,7 *	1,11	
A	----- DE 44 17 373 A1 (DR.ING.H.C. F. PORSCHE AG, 70435 STUTTGART, DE) 23 November 1995 (1995-11-23) * figures 1,2 *	1	
A	----- US 5 897 452 A (SCHREIER ET AL) 27 April 1999 (1999-04-27) * figures 10,11,14 *	1,11	
X	----- US 5 055 095 A (OSENBAUGH ET AL) 8 October 1991 (1991-10-08) * the whole document *	8-10	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) F16H
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 6 June 2006	Examiner Revilla, X
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)

**CLAIMS INCURRING FEES**

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION**

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION  
SHEET B**

Application Number  
EP 04 10 0609

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-7,11-13

Retention of cross pin in a differential housing by  
insertion of resin material.

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2. claims: 8-10

Retention of pinion gears in a cross pin of a differential.

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 04 10 0609

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.  
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on  
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06-06-2006

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